

Workplace Requirements

The process safety management of highly hazardous chemicals standard contains requirements for preventing or minimizing the consequences of catastrophic releases of toxic, reactive, flammable, or explosive chemicals. These releases may result in toxic, fire, or explosive hazards. The standard applies to all workplaces with processes involving chemicals at or above specified threshold quantities. It also applies to keeping, having, storing, manufacturing, selling, transporting, and using explosives, blasting agents, and pyrotechnics. These rules do not apply to the sale and use (public display) of pyrotechnics, commonly known as fireworks, or to the use of explosives in the form prescribed in the official United States pharmacopoeia. The applicable regulation is Title 29, Section 1910.119 of the Code of Federal Regulations.



Elements of Process Safety Management

There are 14 principal elements to this standard:

1. Employee participation;
2. Mechanical integrity;
3. Process safety information;
4. Hot work permit;
5. Process hazard analysis;
6. Management of change;
7. Operating procedures;
8. Incident investigation;
9. Training;
10. Emergency planning and response;
11. Contractors' obligations;
12. Compliance audits;
13. Pre-start-up safety review; and
14. Trade secrets.

For more information on process safety management, please visit the U.S. Department of Labor's Web site at www.osha.gov/SLTC/processsafetymanagement/index.html.

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